



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 17, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 12 totaled 346,295, virtually the same as the corresponding week of 1989, but 0.5 percent below the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 1.8 percent in the West but down 1.4 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings were up 4,095 cars (3.2 percent). Loadings of metallic ores decreased by 1,591 cars (7.5 percent) and loadings of pulp, paper and allied products were down 663 cars (6.3 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 19 weeks of 1990 totaled 6,442,128, up 0.2 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 118,558 trailers and/or containers for the week ended May 12, up 5.2 percent from the corresponding week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 19 weeks of 1990 was 2,216,252 trailers and/or containers, 3.4 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended May 12 totaled 20.1 billion, up 1.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 19 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 374.5 billion ton-miles, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 12, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP					
COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MAY 12, 1990	COMPARISON WITH			
		SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	25,518	25,055	1.8 %	27,271	-6.4 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,573	1,523	3.3	1,132	39.0
Metallic Ores	19,717	21,308	-7.5	19,428	1.5
Coal	130,950	126,855	3.2	130,829	.1
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	17,644	17,156	2.8	16,850	4.7
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,699	10,540	1.5	10,800	-.9
Grain Mill Products	9,625	10,122	-4.9	9,832	-2.1
Food & Kindred Products	8,499	8,880	-4.3	8,517	-1.4
Primary Forest Products	9,571	9,980	-4.1	9,401	1.8
Lumber & Wood Products	6,500	6,946	-6.4	6,904	-5.9
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,890	10,553	-6.3	10,725	-7.8
Chemicals	28,640	28,417	.8	28,993	-1.2
Petroleum Products	5,213	4,956	5.2	5,072	2.8
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,249	10,750	-4.7	10,478	-2.2
Coke	5,960	5,499	8.7	5,807	3.0
Metals & Products	9,639	9,701	-.6	10,489	-8.1
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,894	21,197	-1.4	19,572	6.8
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,315	9,556	-2.5	8,787	6.0
All Other Carloads	6,179	7,326	-15.7	6,903	-10.5
Total	346,295	346,320	.0 %	347,890	-5 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES						
TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MAY 12, 1990			CUMULATIVE: 19 WEEKS ENDING MAY 12, 1990		
	1990	1989	CHANGE	1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	346,295	346,320	.0 %	6,442,128	6,426,930	.2 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	64,900	66,191	-2.0	1,255,115	1,252,006	.2
Containers	53,658	46,515	15.4	961,137	891,000	7.9
Total	118,558	112,706	5.2	2,216,252	2,143,006	3.4
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	20.1	19.9	1.0 %	374.5	369.7	1.3 %